

Simultaneously, the private sector and joint sector have also grown considerably in respect of its industrial organisation and diversified its activities to a considerable extent.

7. Expansion of Infrastructural Facilities. In India, the infrastructural facilities has also expanded to a significant extent. These facilities include development of social infrastructure like transportation and communication facilities, generation of electricity, irrigation facilities etc. and also the development of financial infrastructure like the growth of banking, and non-banking financial institutions, insurance organisations etc. In India there are broadly four important modes of transport and these are Railways, Roads, Water transport and Air transport. Among these four, the rail and road system dominates over the entire system of the country. Being the Asia's largest and World's second largest organisation in terms of route length, Indian Railways has expanded its total route length from 53,600 kms in 1950-51 to 65,800 kms in 2013-2014. Again the total length of roads has also increased from 4 lakh kms in 1950-51 to nearly 49.49 lakh kms in 2012-13. Total length of national highways now stands at 79,100 kms. About 64 per cent of the villages of our country have a rural road network. The share of Indian shipping in the transportation of cargo in our overseas trade has increased from 0.2 million GRT in 1950- 51 to 7.02 million GRT in 1996-97. At the end of March 2003, the fleet strength was 616 vessels with its capacity of 6.17 million GRT and 10.06 million DWT². The air transport facility has also been expanded significantly. Total number of passengers handled at Airports has also increased from 177.23 lakh in 1990-91 to 1389.0 lakh in 2013-14 and the volume of cargo handled has also increased from 377.33 thousand tonnes in 1950-51 to 2279.15 thousand tonnes in 2013-14.

8. Exports. The volume of export in India has also recorded a considerable increase in recent years. Total value of exports in India has increased from a mere 947 crore in 1950-51 to 19,05,011 crore in 2013-2014. With the gradual diversification and growth of the industrial sector, India started to export various types of non-traditional products. Accordingly, the share of jute, tea and cotton textiles in the total export earning of the country gradually declined from 60 per cent in 1950-51 to 37 per cent in 1970-71 and then to 2.5 per cent in 2013-14. But the share of machinery and engineering goods in India's total export increased gradually from a mere 2.1 per cent in 1960-61 to 12.9 per cent in 1970-71 and then stood at 19.7 per cent in 2013- 14.

9. Employment Generation. With the gradual development of various sectors of the economy, the country started to generate employment opportunities for the people of the country. The volume of employment generated in India during the First, Second and Third Plan was to the extent of 70 lakh, 100 lakh and 145 lakh respectively. During the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Plans, the volume of employment generated was of order of 190 lakh, 154 lakh, 468 lakh and 403.6 lakh respectively. The continuation of the strategy during the Ninth Plan generated 47.5 million additional employment during the period 1997-2002. The Eleventh Plan is expected to generate around 58 million additional employment opportunities. Thus the present employment strategy is expected to wipe out the entire backlog of open unemployment and a sizable part of the severe under-employment in the country by the year 2017.

10. Poverty. The incidence of poverty in India has also been declining in recent years. The Planning Commission estimates of poverty shows that the proportion of total population lying below the poverty line has declined from 54.9 per cent in 1972-73 to 38.9 per cent in